

The Dumfries Charter

Volume XII, Issue I

First Quarter 2013

Town Contacts

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Police Department:

703.221.1111

Town Manager: ext. 113

Town Attorney: ext. 112

Town Treasurer: ext. 110

Department of Comm.

Services: ext. 144

Dumfries Cares: ext. 146

Department of Public

Works: ext. 117

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR:

2012 was a year of change; let's make 2013 a year of difference! A year where citizens, business owners, churches and the Town Council work together to make a positive influence on the Town of Dumfries. While 2013 has no elections that affect Council seats, there are quite a few hot button issues still to resolve. We must continue to reverse the Equalization Initiatives that the 2009 Town Council voted to adopt in FY10. This means as we enter the FY14 Budget preparation period, Council should make every effort to lower property taxes and BPOL for the third street year. Additionally, Council should reduce in equal effort Vehicle Tag Fees, Cigarette Taxes, and Storm Water Management fees; all of which were raised in the Equalization Initiatives.

I encourage citizens and business owners to contact your Town Council about subjects that are important to you. I have made it a focus of effort since May 2012 that I have met with Potomac Supervisor Caddigan, Prince William County Chairman Corey Stewart, Delegate Luke Torian (52nd District), Delegate Mark Duddenhefer (2nd District), Senator Toddy Puller (36th District), Congressman Gerry Connolly (11th District) and Congressman Robb Wittman (1st District) and in each meeting we have discussed issues and concerns that are important to the Town and will move the Town forward in transportation, protecting and restoring our resources, economic development and in improving our quality of life. In every meeting with Political Leaders, I found it encouraging that each person offered letters of endorsement and offered their staff's expertise to assist the Town of Dumfries in realizing our objectives. In 2013 my efforts will be focused on State and County offices that provide services to our Town.

Lastly, I ask that in 2013 citizens and business owners get involved. One person can make a difference. Each voice should be heard. Talk and write to Council and the Town Manager to affect change. Council was elected by you, to do your will; hold us accountable. This Town and its amenities are yours. We are working on connectivity (sidewalks), safety (crosswalks & bus shelters), Construction of the sound-wall adjacent to Prince William Estates and Knolls of Dumfries, recreation (Ginn Memorial Park), infrastructure (Tripoli Heights) and transportation (Route-1 widening and multi-modal). The Town Government needs citizen and business owner involvement on Committees and feedback on Council decisions.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Mayor,

Mayor Gerald M. Foreman, II

Inside this issue:

News from the Public Works Department	2
News from the Police Department	3
Police Department continued	4
News from the Town Treasurer	4
News from Community Services Department	5
Black History Month Celebration!	5
Save the Dates	6

News from the Department of Public Works

25th Annual Potomac River Watershed —Quantico Creek Clean-Up Saturday, April 6, 2013

8:00 am - 12:00 pm Rain or Shine!

Although it is still Winter, we can think ahead to warmer weather and outside activities. Please join the Town as we undertake a Town-wide Clean-Up effort on Saturday, April 6th in conjunction with the 25th Annual Potomac River Watershed & Quantico Creek Clean-Up Day.

For 24 years and counting, the Potomac Watershed Cleanup remains a successful event for cleaning litter from our watershed. The Alice Ferguson Foundation's Trash Free Potomac Initiative invites all people in our watershed to help be a part of the solution for eliminating trash from our waterways, public lands, and communities.

Since 1989, more than 100,000 volunteers, and 495 partner organizations have removed over 6 million tons of trash from the watershed's streams, rivers and bays. Last year's haul of 262 tons included 185,300 recyclable bottles, 31,450 plastic bags, 1,566 tires and 37,600 cigarette butts from 660 sites in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC!



Why participate? The Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup has become a decisive catalyst for progress that ignites people throughout the watershed with the Alice Ferguson Foundation's community spirit. The largest regional event of its kind, the Cleanup provided a transforming experience that engages citizens and community leaders and generates momentum for change.

The Clean-Up will begin at 8am at the Town Community Center located at 17757 Main Street in Dumfries. Please dress appropriately for the weather and plan to get dirty. All volunteers who support this event will receive a free t-shirt and lunch for their participation. For more information please call 703-221-3400 or email rwest@dumfriesva.gov. Thank you for taking pride in our community!

Winter Preparation Tips:



The weather may be beautiful now, but Old Man Winter is waiting around the corner. Some thoughts from the Department of Public Works to reduce pollution in Quantico Creek, the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay:

When removing snow or ice, shovel or scrape to remove accumulations, and use as little chemicals or sand as possible. Chemicals eventually end up in streams, and sand clogs drains. The Town attempts to use no chemicals or sand in snow and ice control. Occasionally sand is applied where dangerous ice builds up.

Help keep drains clear by not shoveling or plowing ice or snow into curbs or drains. This will allow melt water to drain freely, reducing flooding and slippery conditions.

If you change your car fluids at this time, please **dispose of oil and coolant at a proper recycling facility. Take used car batteries to a facility that will dispose of them properly.**

Please contact Richard West, Assistant Director of Public Works, at 703 221-3400 or rwest@dumfriesva.gov with any questions.

News from the Police Department:

Winter Weather Precautions

Severe weather storms create a myriad of serious issues. One of which is the loss of electricity for extended periods of time.

Food Safety Precautions - In the case of an electrical outage, it is important to take careful precautions to ensure food safety. The risk of food poisoning is heightened when refrigerators and ovens are inoperable.

- ♦ Discard any food that has been at room temperature for two hours or more, and any food that has an unusual odor, color or texture. Just remember, "When in doubt, throw it out!"
- ♦ If your power has been out for 48 hours or longer – and you have NOT made other provisions for keeping your food at or below 41 degrees F – do not eat it.
- ♦ If you have made other provisions to keep your food cold, make sure the temperature of the food is 41 degrees F or below before cooking or eating it.
- ♦ A full cooler or freezer will maintain its cold temperatures longer than one that is partially filled, so it is important to pack plenty of extra ice or freezer packs to insure a constant cold temperature.
- ♦ Depending on the type of cooler you are using, ice will need to be replaced at least every 24 hours.

Avoid Carbon Monoxide - Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is poisonous to breathe. Do not heat your home or operate gasoline-powered generators inside your residence. Never bring them indoors.

(Continued on page 4)

Dumfries Police Department Hires a New Officer:

The Dumfries Police Department is pleased to announce our newest officer. Mr. Jean "John" Lopez, a Prince William County resident, was hired on January 3, 2013. Mr. Lopez will attend the Rappahannock Regional Training Academy starting January 7, 2013. Mr. Lopez has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice with a Major in Forensic Psychology. He is fluent in both English and Spanish and is looking forward to a rewarding career with the Dumfries Police Department.

**Embracing the Past - Black History
Month Celebration
Free "Children's Day at the Weems-
Botts Museum"**

February 16, 2013
1:30 to 3:00
History of the Emancipation Proclamation,
Make & Take Craft, and Snacks!

Dumfries Police Officer Called to Active Duty:

Dumfries Police Department Officer Called to Active Duty.

The Dumfries Police Department is proud to announce Senior Police Officer Brian Fields has been called to active duty.

Officer Fields is a six year veteran with the police department. Officer Fields is a Staff Sergeant in the Army National Guard and he will be deployed later this Spring which will be his second overseas tour. Residents of Dumfries know Officer Fields for his smile, pleasant disposition and absolute desire to help anyone in need. Though no specific date has been announced, he is expected to return in late 2014.

Please keep Officers Fields in your thoughts and prayers for his safe return home.



Officer Fields

News from the Police Department Continued:

Candle Safety

- Use flashlights instead of candles whenever possible.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire such as clothing, books, curtains, or flammable liquids.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily and are made from a material that can't burn.
- Keep candles out of reach of children.
- Avoid carrying a lit candle.
- Never use a candle for a light when checking pilot lights or fueling equipment.

The VDH website also contains information on pre-storm planning, post-storm recovery and the prevention of heat-related illnesses. Please visit www.vdh.virginia.gov.

News from the Town Treasurer:

2013 Town Decals are Due April 15th!

If you are a resident of Dumfries, you are required to display a Town decal on your vehicle. The Town decals are valid from April 15, 2013 to April 15, 2014. You may purchase the 2013 decals at the Dumfries Town Hall located at 17755 Main Street adjacent to the Dumfries Community & Cultural Arts Center. Town Hall is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30am to 5:00pm. Please bring your current vehicle registration, showing your Dumfries address, or bring the notice mailed to you in February. The cost for each decal is \$27.00.



For your convenience the Town Hall will offer extended hours during the weeks of April 1 through April 15. During this time the Town Hall will remain open for vehicle decal sales on Monday & Wednesday evenings until 7:30pm. We also offer our citizens the option of mailing in a copy of their vehicle registration, or the notice mailed to them, along with a check for \$27.00 per vehicle, and decal(s) will be mailed to your residence within the week. For your convenience there is also a mail drop box located next to the front door of Town Hall.

For more information, please contact the Treasurer's office at 703 221-3400 ext. 110 or ext. 101

2013 BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

The 2013 Business License Renewal Applications will be mailed in late January 2013 and are due by March 1, 2013. A late filing fee will be assessed if not received by the due date. The Town has instituted an enforcement program related to businesses that have not established their business licenses and criminal charges may be pursued. For any questions or more information please contact Retta Ladd, Treasurer at (703) 221-3400 x110.



News from the Department of Community Services:

Dumfries Cares: The *Dumfries Cares* Mentoring program is now fully functioning, and will be providing mentoring services to a limited number of Town youth, now through June 2013! Please contact the Dumfries Cares Program Assistant, Ms. Janae Williams or Program Intern, Ms. Brittany Jordan, to enroll your child and learn more about the program! Here is their contact information:

Program Assistant-jwilliams@dumfriesva.gov

Program Intern-bjordan@dumfriesva.gov

703.221.3400. ext. 146

Multi-Cultural Festival

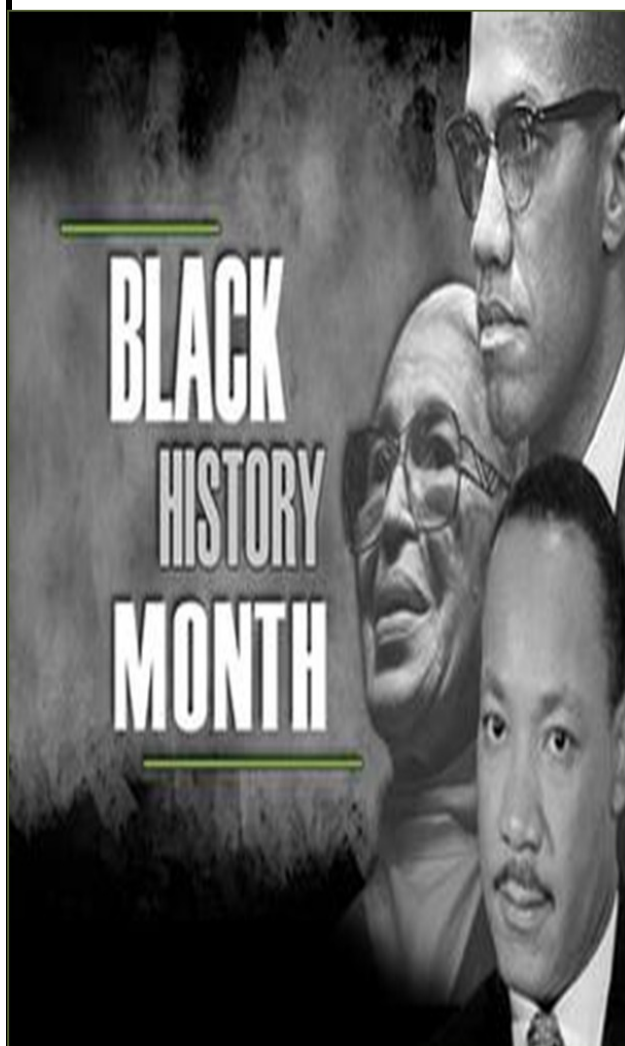
The Town's "4th Annual Multicultural Festival" featuring the "2nd Annual Bar-B-Que Battle" will be held at Garrison Park, on Saturday, May 4, 2013! Please be sure to visit the Town website (www.dumfriesva.gov) for vendor registration information, in February!



(L-R) Program Intern-Ms. Brittany Jordan, Director of Community Services- Ms. Cydney A. Neville, MAEd, Program Assistant-Ms. Janae Williams

Upcoming Events:

2.9.2013-Black History Celebration
3.23.2013-Easter Egg Hunt
4.13.2013-Farmer's Market Opening



TOWN OF DUMFRIES ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

"Believe, Achieve, Succeed: Showcasing Inspiring Testimonials from Change Agents in our Community"

Join us for an afternoon of history, music, reflection and inspiration as we celebrate Black History Month! There will be a reception following this event, with light refreshments; we look forward to having you join us in celebration of Black History Month!

When: Saturday, February 9, 2013
12:00pm-2:00pm

Where: Little Union Baptist Church
17150 Mine Road
Dumfries, VA 22026

Questions? Please contact Ms. Cydney A. Neville, MAEd, Town of Dumfries Director of Community Services at cneville@dumfriesva.gov or 703-221-3400 ext. 144

Photo Credit: WCB D



DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA
Virginia's Oldest Continuously
Chartered Town
CHARTERED 1749
INCORPORATED 1961

PRST STD
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TOWN OF DUMFRIES

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Dumfries, Virginia 22026
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The Dumfries Charter is a quarterly newsletter produced to inform Town residents and businesses of Town services and events. All questions & comments regarding the Charter should be addressed to Cydney Neville, Director of Community Services 703-221-3400, ext. 144 or via email at cneville@dumfriesva.gov

DUMFRIES TOWN COUNCIL

Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II Mayor
703-221-3400 ext. 120

Hon. Willie Toney, Vice Mayor

Hon. Charles Brewer

Hon. Kristin W. Forrester

Hon. Helen Reynolds

Hon. Gwen P. Washington

Hon. Derrick Wood

TOWN MANAGER

Dan Taber

TOWN ATTORNEY

Christine Sanders

Town Council Meetings

Town Council Meeting are typically held the *first* Tuesday of the month at 7:00^{PM}. The regular meetings are broadcast locally and may be viewed on Comcast Channel 3 & Verizon Channel 35.*

Work Sessions are typically held on the *third* Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Please visit the Town website for an updated schedule.

Additional meetings may be called by Council. For information and meeting schedules, contact the Town at 703-221-3400, or visit www.dumfriesva.gov.

*If you have difficulty viewing or hearing a televised Town Council regular meeting, please contact Comcast at 1-800-266-2278 or Verizon at 1-888-553-1555.

*****ECRWSS*****

P.O. Box Holder

Town of Dumfries Resident/Business

Dumfries, Virginia 22026



**Please SAVE THE DATES for
these upcoming Town Events!**

2/9- Black History Month Program

3/23 Easter Egg Hunt

**4/6- 25th Annual Potomac River Watershed
Cleanup Quantico Creek**
(Contact Department of Public Works)

4/13-Grand Opening of the 2013

Farmer's Market

5/4 Multicultural Festival

9/14- Fall Festival

12/7 Christmas in Dumfries

(Contact the Dumfries Police Department)

12/14-Annual Christmas-Holiday Parade

**Please visit www.dumfriesva.gov for updates on our
events!**

Also, Join us on Facebook!